



John Bull, as Bobadil.



John Bull, as Bobadil.

THE
HISTORY
OF
JOHN BULL.

PART III.

CONTAINING,

Among many other Curious Particulars,
A FAITHFUL NARRATIVE
of the most Secret and Important Trans-
actions of the Worshipful and Ancient
Family of the *BULLS*, from *August 1,*
1714, to June 11, 1727.

*Publisp'd from the Manuscripts of that Learned and
Celebrated Biographer, the Late Sir Humphry
Polesworth, Author of the First and Second Part
of this Work, publish'd in 1712.*

By NATHAN POLESWORTH,
Sir Humphry's Neplbew, and sole Executor.

LONDON:

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Paternoster-Row. 1744. [Price 15.]

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HISTORY

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Н ТЮМЕНЬСКОЕ МАНСАРИ
ЧИТАЕШЬ ВСЯ ПРЕДВИДИМОСТЬ

WOGWOL

in the South, as at the time of the Civil War, the slaves were
not yet freed.



THE P R E F A C E.

THE Editor of this curious and instructive History, assumes no other Merit to himself than that of collecting the Work from his learned Uncle's Manuscripts with the utmost Caution and Fidelity : For tho' he pretends not so that Great Man's Erudition, he won't allow him or any Man to outstrip him in Candour and Truth. These, as he inherits them from a long Line of upright Ancestors, he proposes to convey down unimpeach'd and unimpair'd, along with the Family-Estate, to the latest Posterity.

Had

Had the Poleſworths been no b
neſter than ſome of their contem
porary Writers, the World would not be
ſo well inform'd, as it now is by
Means of this accurate and impartial
History, of many curious and interesting
Particulars well worthy the No
tice of the preſent Generation and of
being tranſmitteſ to Posterity. For the
virtuous Uncle was tamper'd with to
ſtifle certain Facts, and palliate o
thers, ſo early as 1712; and the Ne
phew, ſo late as the laſt Summer, was
no leſs vigorously attack'd by the Great
and Powerful, to varniſh certain Tran
actions, and shade certain Peſons from
the Sun ſhine of Truth. But ſo strong
was their native Abhorrence of Cor
ruption and Difingenuity, that each of
them in their Turns ſpurn'd from them
the profer'd Bribe with Indignation,
and treated the impudent Seducers with
Contempt.

The Reader is not to expect here
the pompous unconnected Stile of cer
tain

tain modern Historians, who make more Court to the Ear than the Head or Heart. Sir Humphry was a plain Man, lov'd Truth, and always produced it with as little Art and Ceremony as possible, thinking it had native Charms enough to recommend it without resorting to foreign Help.

The Motto of the Polesworts is, Speak Truth, and spare not; which should be that of all Historians, who would inform Posterity, and eternize themselves. But how few Writers consult either their own Fame, or the Information of future Ages?

Our Author had both in View, as may be seen by his Accuracy and scrupulous Impartiality. He pays Court to no Man at the Expence of Truth; but says no more of him than is necessary for the Illustration of his Subject; nor treats of any Facts that seem to affect the Character of Individuals, but such as could not be silent'd without wronging the Reader and himself.

Whether Sir Humphry was more cautious of giving Offence than other Historians, or whether, like some ancient Writers, he had a Passion for Allegory, we can't say; but true it is, that to the vulgar Part of his Readers all his Works seem to be Allegorical, though the Learned and Intelligent can easily see thro' the prudent Disguise.

But should the Editor find hereafter, that any Names or Passages in this Work puzzle the learned Reader, he will oblige the Public with such explanatory Notes, as he hopes will satisfy the most Curious and Inquisitive.

The Fourth and Last Part of this useful History is preparing for the Press; and shall be publish'd from the same learned Author's Manuscripts, as far as they go, with strict Fidelity, and as much Expedition as the Nature of so Curious a Work will admit of.

THE



THE
HISTORY
OF
JOHN BULL.
C H A P. I.

Of some particular Customs in John Bull's Family.

ALTHOUGH the Family of the BULLS were originally but Farmers and Clothiers, it is well known they were descended from as good a Stock as any in the Neighbourhood: And they pride themselves not a little on the Goodness of the Blood in their Veins, which they say shews

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she'retself evidently in their known Hospitality and Valour. Like other great Families then, they have their peculiar Customs, of which they are extremely tenacious; but among many of lesser Moment, there are some few which are look'd upon by them as so many Fundamentals. For Instance, the Person in the actual Possession of the Family-Inheritance shall always bear the Name of John; and he shall not remain unmarried above a certain Time limited.

'Tis true these Johns have been distinguish'd, like antient Persian Monarchs, by different additional Appellations; as *John Bull DRUID*, *John Bull LATIAN*, *John Bull STONE*, *John Bull PIPPIN*, *John Bull BONNET*, and *John Bull WH—P.* There were likewise some few call'd *REDLOCKS* and *BUTTERBOX*; but of these I find no frequent Mention made in the Annals of the Family; nor of one of spurious Breed, nick-nam'd the *PHARISEE*, who liv'd about a Century ago.

C H A P. II.

*The Customs concerning Matrimony in the
Family of the Bulls.*

In antient Times the Bulls were so uxorious, that no sooner was one of them become a Widower but he took unto him another Wife of the same Family; insomuch that for some Ages

JOHN BULL.

Ages the *Bull* in Possession had a new Wife every Year. But it not being to our present Purpose to descant on the Cause of the frequent Mortality of the *Johns* Yoke-Mates in those Days, we may be allow'd to say, that so quick a Succession of Wives cou'd not but be advantageous to the Family-Tenants, not only because the Landlord kept open House some Weeks before the Proclamation of his Nuptials, but because each Wife strove to gain their Esteem by softening the Temper of her Husband, and by curbing and chastising the Insolence and Injustice of his Steward, and other Head-Servants.

But in Length of Time, some advent'rous Quack in *John's* Family found Means to prolong the Life of his Wives, to the great Prejudice of the Tenants and Estate: For such Prolongation giving his Servants an Opportunity of practising on the Good-nature, perhaps the Sensuality of the Ladies, they so lorded it over the Tenants, that sometimes Riots and great Broils ensued, which seldom ended to the Advantage of the Tenants.

Tho' it might seem unnatural to oblige a Man to knock an obsequious Wife on the Head, shou'd she live longer than others wou'd have her, yet so great was the Uproar among *John's* Tenants about half a Century ago, concerning ill Advice given him by his Wife and Tenants, that he ty'd himself down by Bond to repudiate, poison, or otherwise dispose of his Wife, and take a new one every third Year at least. As Matters stood at that Time with *John* he must have comply'd,

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had the Tenants insisted on annual Nuptials, as practis'd by his Ancestors; but they were artfully put by the making such a salutary Demand by some of the Landlord's Head-Servants, who pretended to be vehemently attach'd to the common Interest.

But the Tenants had not long enjoy'd the Benefits of this triennial Contract, when *John* found Means to have it alter'd much to his own Content, and the Emolument of his principal Domesticks. The *Bulls*, tho' seemingly plain and well-meaning, yet are cunning enough to turn most Accidents to their own private Advantage, as may be seen by their taking Advantage of a Fray, which happen'd two Years after the late famous Composition, towards the Northern Mears of the Manor of *Bullocks-Hatch*. Some few of the remotest of *John*'s Tenants took it in their Heads to attempt getting into his House at the Back-door; but being surpriz'd, and caught in the Fact, *John* order'd most of them to be hang'd *in terrorem*; but not content with that, he took Care in the Fright the rest of the Servants were in at that Time, to get up his Bond, and extend the Time of his Cohabitation with his Wives from three to seven Years. We shall have Occasion hereafter to expatiate more amply on the Nature of this New Contract; but for the present, let it suffice to say, that the Tenants ever since complain highly of Grievances arising from this Extension.

C H A P.

JOHN BULL.

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C H A P. III.

How, about two Years after the Composition
of the expensive Law-Suit with Lewis
and Philip Baboon, John Bull discharged
all his Servants in general, and took
a new Set; and how Hocus was re-
stored to his Employments and the Confi-
dence of his Master, tho' it was whisper'd
that he had enter'd into a Combi-
nation against him the few Months be
was absent from Bullocks-Hatch.

WHETHER John was incens'd at Sir Roger and his Fellow-Servants for com-
pounding the Law-Suit with the Family of the
Baboons against his Consent; or whether he
thought Servants with different Principles wou'd
be more supple and affectionate, we can't say;
but all of a sudden he turn'd off all the Servants
of the Family, from the Steward to the Turn-
spit, and took in a Set of quite other Principles
and Passions, as will more fully appear by the
Sequel. Among these Hocus, who had been
lately obliged to retire to save his Bacon from
the Pursuit of Justice, which Sir Roger had
it in his Power to execute upon him by
Means of certain Proofs he had accidentally
got into his Hands: Hocus, I say, among this

new Set was chief in *John Bull's* Favour, tho' it is thought that *John* cou'd not be a Stranger to a certain late dangerous Combination enter'd into by *Hucus* the little Time he was from home.

Hucus was the Darling of Fortune all his Life, but in no Instance does it appear more than in the blind Fondness of *John* for him after he had had Information that this new Favourite had agreed to a Scheme drawn up by Sir *Roger* a few Years before, for defeating *John Bull* of his Succession to the Manor of *Bullock-Hatch*. So lucky was this Minion of Chance, that the very Act for which he deserv'd to lose his Head, if secret Family-Memoirs are to be credited, turn'd to his Advantage, and became the Means of his engrossing the Heart of his Master. That this Transaction be somewhat of a foreign Nature, yet to indulge the Reader's Curiosity, we shall relate it succinctly, w^{ch} I bid ~~the Reader~~

Hucus had been employ'd in carrying on the Law-Suit against the *Babons*, and tho' his Bills of Cost ran excessively high, it must be own'd that he managed with great Success and Skill. But a Composition taking Place by Means of Sir *Roger*, *Hucus*, to be revenged of the Compounder, agreed secretly, as 'tis reported, with 'Squint-Snub and *Nic Frog*, to stir up *John Bull's* Tenants in such a Manner, that Sir *Roger* shou'd be glad to drop his Occurrences for a Composition, and sculk away to *Clay-pot* to *Lewis Babon*, to save his Head. This whole Scheme of *Hucus*, and his Letters, fell into Sir *Roger's* Hands, which when he produc'd to *Hucus*, the Schemer was for-

forced to compound for his own Head, by a voluntary Absence from Bullocks-Hatch. But *Hecus* willing to be at home to manage the great Fortune he had acqui'd An the Management of the Law-Suit; and perhaps not averse by Nature from Sir Roger's Scheme in Favour of a certain Itinerant Person, who laid Claim to the Inheritance of the *Bulls*, he is said to have capitulated for his Return, by Articles under his Hand. But be that as it may, his arriving so critically as he did looks as if he had enter'd into quite other Measures than those he affected to pursue, as soon as he set his Foot within the Manor of Bullocks-Hatch. Whatever was his Agreement with Sir Roger and his Fellow-Servants, and however inclin'd he might have been on his setting out for home, to fulfil his Agreement; 'tis certain, that as soon as he found Matters in Confusion on his Arrival, he chopp'd about, made a publick Entry to the Manor-House, and afterwards made a Merit of his Sufferings, and opportune Arrival, to serve the present Landlord.

B. 4. C. H. A. P.

views

How Hocus had incens'd John Bull against
all the late Compounders, and particu-
larily against Sir Roger, Squire Worthy,
and young Courtly. How John's new
Servants frighten'd away Worthy and
Courtly, but cou'd not move Sir Roger;
and how this last escap'd a Blow which
John aim'd at his Head, by squatting be-
tween two Benches in the Manor Court-
House.

NOW that *Hocus* was very snug in all his former Places, and had the Ear of *John Bull*, there was nothing he dreaded more than that *John* shou'd permit *Sir Roger*, *Worthy*, or *Courtly* to smoke a Pipe, or drink a Bottle in his Company, in an Opinion that he must like their Conversation, and take them into his Service, shou'd he become thoroughly acquainted with their personal Merit. Therefore his first Care was to depreciate the late Composition, and to incenc *John* against the principal Compounders, so as to induce him to resolve to chop off their Heads with his *Coningsmark Sabre* the first Place he met them. 'Tis thought by some of the Ananlists of those Days, that *Hocus* did not intend any Blood shou'd be shed, but only to frighten away

away these Rivals from the Manor ; and indeed the Industry with which *John Bull's* sanguine Resolution was spread abroad by *Hocus's* Emissaries, gives a Colour to the Suggestion.

But tho' we may suppose, by his Stay, that Sir Roger smoak'd *Hocus's* Design, it is certain *Worthy* and *Courtly* thought him in downright Earpest ; for they separately and secretly withdrew themselves from the Manor, and retired to *Clay-pool*, where they were secretly well receiv'd by old *Lewis Baboon*, who durst do them no publick Honours, for fear of incensing *John Bull*. But tho' their Persons were got out of *John's* Reach, their Copyholds were at his Mtrcy, as Lord of the Manor ; and these he retain'd to his own Use. Sir Roger lay by all this While, trusting to his own Innocence, or rather reckoning that *Hocus* wou'd find Means to save him, to prevent his opening *John's* Eyes, by producing the Proofs he had of his Attachment to the *Bulls* of the *Bonnet-Branch*. And he was not mistaken ; for by a private Agreement between him and *Hocus*, while he was in the Stocks, he was to give up the aforesaid Proofs, in Consideration of which *Hocus* was to blunt the Edge of *John's* Sabre, or to shew Sir Roger how to avoid the Blow, by ducking his Head between two Benches in the Manor Court-House, which *Hocus* was to place there for the Purpose. Sir Roger trusting rather to his own Agility than the Bluntness of *John Bull's* Back-Sword, chose the Expedient of the Benches, and by that Means sav'd his Head and Copyhold Leaves.

C H A P.

TO THE HISTORY OF

the
Laws : from the
beginning of the
World, with
the
most
curious
and
extraordinary
Reports,
as well as
the
best
and
most
useful
Observations
on
the
present
State
of
the
Human
Race.

C H A P. V.

How John's new Servants wou'd have him
break through the late Agreement with
Lewis Baboon, and renew the Law-Suit ;
And how John gave them the deaf Ear
out of Jealousy to Squire South, and for
other private Reasons.

THO' *Hocus* had acquir'd more Wealth in
the Management of the grand Law-Suit,
than ever had been known by any of the Pro-
fession ; he and his meek Wife were of so insatiable a Disposition, that they set all the World
upon *John Bull*, to persuade him to kick the In-
strument of the late Composition out at Wins-
dow, and file a new Bill against *Lewis* and *Phi-
lip Baboon*. Nay, so great was their Influence,
that they brought over Mrs. *Bull* of their Side ;
But *John*, who had quite other Views from ei-
ther his Wife, or Servants, gave them the Hear-
ing, but wou'd not be persuaded. *John* was
The Tenants of *Bullocks-Hatch*, who had been
impoverish'd to defray the Expence of the late
Law-Suit, blest'd *John* for his pacifick Disposi-
tion, little imagining he had any private, separate
Views, or that their Burdens shou'd continue,
tho' no Suit was carry'd on. And *Hocus* and the
rest of his Fellow-Servants were not a little dis-
appointed in *John*, whom they thought to ma-
nage,

JOHN BULL. III

nage, as they had done his Predecessor: But finding that he wou'd be serv'd in his own Way, rather than fall in his Favour, or lose their Places, they came one and all into his Measures: And as Example has generally more Influence than Precept, the Submission of this first Set was implicitly subscrib'd to by all the Servants of the Family ever since.

John had no personal Quarrel to *Lewis Baboon*, and besides he knew *Lewis* was old, and could not live many Years, by the Course of Nature; and that as soon as he shou'd be dead, the Management of the Manor of *Clay-pool* wou'd come to the Hands of his Nephew *Orlando*, who by Interest and Inclination was a Friend to the *Bulls*. Besides, John had a View of making *Orlando* subservient to his Design of reducing the Power of *Squire Snub*, who had been so enrich'd by the late Law-Suit, as to raise the Jealousy of John, who was obliged to do him Service for a small Manor he held of him in his greatest Lordship. To these Reasons for John's Repugnance to a Revival of the Law-Suit may be added, that he had set his Heart upon purchasing two small Farms contiguous to his favourite little Manor of *Mumqueg*, which he thought he cou'd not so well do, pending a costly Law-Suit with the *Baboons*; and besides, he was suspicious that *Squire Snub* would oppose the Purchase he intended to make, should he become more powerful, as he necessarily must, should the Suit be commenc'd, and carry'd on successfully.

C H A P.

C H A P. VI.

How John Bull was advised to frown upon most of his Tenants in the Manor of Bullocks-Hatch, that they might be provok'd to do such unlawful Acts as might be a Forfeiture of their Copyholds. How some of John's Servants encouraged Riots underhand, and how Tumults were suffer'd to increase, when they might be quell'd.

THO' John Bull was averse to a Renewal of the Law-Suit with the Baboon, it was thought, it seems, by his Servants, that he wou'd not be sorry to have a Scuffle with some of the Copy-holders of the Manor of Bullocks-Hatch. In this View they adviz'd him to shew a good Countenance but to a few of the Tenants, and to frown on the rest. The slighted Tenants, who thought they had an equal Right to John's Smiles, took Snuff at his Behaviour, and like combustible Matter, were ready for the first Impression that shou'd be made on their Minds. This was just, what John, or his Servants wanted; not doubt-ing but old Lewis Baboon wou'd foment under-hand Animosities between John and his Tenants; and that thereby they wou'd be encouraged to go such Lengths as shou'd answer the Purpose of the Lord of the Manor.

Other Means were likewise taken, or rather no Means were left untaken, to irritate these de-luded

S A H C

luded Copyholders. Squire *Worthy*, by his Hospitality, and many personal good Qualities, was highly esteem'd in the Manor; and for that Reason, more than any Crime that cou'd be laid to his Charge, he was prosecuted with the utmost Rigour; and to crown the Matter, *John's* Mother, a venerable old Lady, held in great Veneration by the Tenants, was slighted by most of *John's* Servants, and not as respectfully treated even in the Manor-House as formerly. Minds, already heated by *John's* Partiality, were soon set on Fire by such a Conduct as cou'd not be grateful to them: And therefore we are not to wonder that Emissaries from *John*, or his Head-Servants, found it an easy Matter to stir up Tumults in the Northern Parts of the Manor.

Old *Lewis Baboon* was now grown feeble of Body, and so heartily sick in Mind of his last Law-Suit, that however he might be inclin'd to disturb *John's* Peace, he avoided scrupulously being seen to have any Hand in fomenting the Disturbances in his Neighbour's Maner. But, to take away all Cause of Suspicion from *John* on the Score of the *Baboon*-Family, the chief of them, that same old *Lewis*, who had play'd better and longer at Back-Sword than any Man of his Time, was gather'd unto his Fathers, in the Infancy of the Broils in the Manor. But for all this so lucky an Accident, and that *Orlando Baboon*, *John's* fast Friend, was most powerful in *Clay-pool*, Tumults were permitted to spread, or, as some think, they were fomented underhand, till they shou'd come to a certain Consistency.

I won't

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I wou't answer for the Truth of all that has been suggested of the Depth of John's Policy concerning the Tumults of those Days; but it is certain that his Conduct on that important Occasion was such as might induce an indifferent Man to suppose he might have quell'd the Disturbances in the Manor much earlier than he did. In regard to this Supposition, John's Slowness in calling for Help to Nic. Frog is not to be overlook'd. By an old Agreement between the Bulls and Frogs, reciprocal Aid was to be given when wanted, and demanded. But tho' John was intituled to demand this stipulated Aid from Nic early in the Summer, and might have had it when he wou'd, yet was it Christmas before the Frogs enter'd the Lands of Bullocks-Hatch Manor.

C H A P. VII.

How John Bull's vicious Tenants were punis'h'd, and how the Riots gave a Hand's to John's procuring considerable Alterations to be made in the Customs of the Manor. How John accosted his Wife for her Consent; and the Conversation between them.

AS soon as it was thought proper to quell effectually the riotous Tenants, they were attack'd and overpow'red. Many of the Rioters were

were capitally punish'd; very many had been stripp'd of their Leaves, and as many as cou'd retir'd secretly out of the Manor. But tho' all was quiet, and there was not so much as one Mutineer of any Consequence left in the Manor, yet it was resolv'd not to let slip so favourable an Opportunity of enlarging the Power of the *Bulls*. The Ambitious are never at a Loss for Pretexts, nor the Powerful for Accessories.

Whether *John* was ambitious by Nature, or whether he was egg'd on by ambitious Servants, the Learned may define; but true it is, that no sooner was the nurs'd Tumult quell'd, but all Enginets were set to work towards extending the Powers allotted to him by the Custom of the Manor. The Danger of the last Tumult was exaggerated, and that of future Riots was magnify'd exceedingly. The shrewdest Scribes were pension'd to declaim in Favour of the new Scheme, and the trustiest of *John's* Servants were privately dispatch'd to expostulate with *Mrs. Bull*, who till then was look'd upon to be zealously in the Interest of the Tenants; but *John*, not caring to rely altogether on either the Fidelity or Address of his Domesticks, waited personally on his Wife in her own Apartment, and spoke to her, as follows: My Dear, said he, it grieves me extremely, that I have it not in my Power to give you substantial Proof of my high Esteem of your Virtues.

Mrs. Bull. Really, my Dear, I have had some Jealousy of your Temper, since I heard that you

refus'd your last Wife the Pleasure of your Conversation, after she had taken all the Pains that Woman cou'd to engage your Heart and Attention.

John Bull. I confess, that a few Weeks before her Demise the Woman was as ductile and obsequious as Man cou'd wish; and I own she was generous to Prodigality: But cou'd a Man of any Spirit brook or forgive her former Conduct? Was she not the Prostitute of those Rogues, *Sir Roger* and *Courthy*? Did she not give a Sanc-tion to the Composition, and all their other Vil-lanies? and was she not in a Plot with them to shut out my Family from the Manor?

Mrs. Bull. Weighty Accusations! But, my Dear, was it not in your late Lady's Power to exclude your Family above-board, if she was so inclin'd, without associating with Plotters? Indeed, my Dear, 'tis clear to me, that neither she, nor *Sir Roger*, nor *Courthy*, intended you any Harm, because they never openly attempted any: And as for the Composition, however it may be your Interest and mine to deprecate it publickly, now we are by ourselves, we must admit it was a necessary Expedient at that Time, and one, perhaps, to which you owe your pre-sent Possession. Besides, had the Law-Suit con-tinued, 'Squire *South* might become more power-ful than you wou'd wish him.

John Bull. That's right; the Slabberer is al-ready wealthier by half than I wou'd have him; but Mum for that — 'tis not fit my Rib shou'd know that I think him so. (*aside.*) — My Dear,

your Judgment and Penetration charm me no less than your Affection and Generosity. You have convinc'd me that I shou'd have behav'd better towards my late Wife the little Time she had to live, which cou'd not exceed six Months; but evil Advisers are the Bane of many a well-meaning Man. I am sorry for my Conduct towards her, with all my Heart, and beg, as she was your Relation, I may atone to you for my ill Usage to her; besides, your own Merit exacts my warmest Gratitude.

Mrs. Bull. My Dear, you are exceedingly obliging; but really my Ambition is limited. I wish for no Increase of my Fin-Money, nor of my Power —

John Bull. But, my dearest Jewel, wou'd you not wish for a Prolongation of your Life, so precious and so dear to me?

Mrs. Bull. I cannot say but I shou'd be loth to leave so loving a Husband.

John Bull. There's my Dear — and to let you see how I keep Pace with you, in Love. I have been contriving how our Cohabitation might be prolong'd.

Mrs. Bull. Nay, my Dear, as for that, if you and I are satisfy'd, I know no body who has any Right to trouble themselves about the Matter — The Tenants indeed may grumble at any Innovation, —

John Bull. A Parcel of Rascals! I wish they wou'd grumble till they worl'd themselves into a second Tumult, that we might have the Pleasure of stripping them stark-naked, and treading upon their tumultuous Necks.

C

Mrs.

Mrs. Bull. I should not care to be instrumental in pushing Matters quite so far; but, as for taking down their Rents, by displaying their Pockets, continuing their present Rents, and retrenching the Excess of their Freedom; I shall agree to all your Schemes for these Purposes with all my Heart, in so far as I can gain by it. John Bull. Those ideas! and most complacent of Wives know shan't part for one seven Years at least; now, as before, —

Mrs. Bull. And in Return, you shall have my Consent to reside as long as you will at your little Favourite Manor of Mumquag, which you shall extend and improve at the Expence of my Jointure-Lands.

John Bull. My Life, my Soul, my ministering Angel! — She has touch'd upon the String that wins me to her for ever.

(Aside.) But I tell ye, Johnson, I tell ye, —

CHAP. VIII.

How John Bull sets up for a Physician after he had secured himself of the Company of his Wife to all his Schemes for the Improvement of his Manor of Mumquag. — How he practis'd first on Sir Swain Norton, who became so remiss, that John was forced to give him the Gold Cordial.

THERE is a Doubt whether John had ever read any Physical Authors, except Salmon and Cutpepper, and one or two Saxon Botanists; or

whether he had receiv'd Doctors Degrees at home or abroad; but however that be, he no sooner quell'd the Tumult in the Manor of Bullocks-Hatch, and secur'd the Complacency of his Wife, but he set up for an *Aesculapius*, and invited all the Country to come to him for Advice. People wonder'd what John meant. Some said, a Conjurer had told him the Secret of a *Catharticon*; some again maliciously, that he had a Mind to poison all his Neighbours, that he might administer to them; and some, that his Head was turn'd. But his true Reason soon appear'd, which was to bleed and purge Sir Swain Northy, till he shou'd be reduc'd so low, that to compound for Life, he shou'd consent to the Foreclosure of a Mortgage, which John had off two Farms belonging to him, which lay contiguous to the Manor of *Munquay*.

The Mortgager had been for some Time before in the Hands of one Peter Beat, a very rough Practitioner, who bled him unconscionably, and not contented with Evacuations, practis'd Amputation upon him. In so deplorable Circumstances, it would have been more generous of John to take the Patient out of cruel Hands, and administered Cordials, than join Peter in his Mal-Practice. But the Fee-simple of the Farms aforesaid was what John had let his Heart upon so immoderately, that all other Considerations sub-sid'd in his flinty Breast.

John's excessive Attachment to his Manor of *Munquay* became evident on this Occasion; and

indeed he took no Paines all his Life to hide his Partiality, going constantly thither, laying out his Money there, and spending as much of his Time there as he possibly could. His Partiality was the more excusable for its being natural; but his Wife had not the same Plea to make, having never once been at her Husband's favourite little Manor; nor cou'd she, in any Shape, benefit by any Improvements or Additions that cou'd be made to an Estate so distant from Bullocks-Hatch. But she had vow'd to be for ever resign'd to her Husband's Will and Desires. I remember it was said by many of the truest and richest of the Tenants about that Time, that John had lull'd his Wife into a Stupor, by Means of a yellow Tincture which she herself had prepared. So may the sturdiest Oak in the Forest be cleav'd in twain by a Wedge made out of its own Wood.

John, not being thoroughly vers'd in the Profession of Physic, had like to lose all his Credit in this his first Attempt. For, by excessive Evacuations, he had almost knock'd up poor Sir Swain; insomuch, that all the old Women's Tongues in the Neighbourhood were busy with the Doctor's Character. But John was unmov'd at the Trill-rattle within and without the Manor of Bullocks-Hatch, and went on his old Road of bleeding and purging, till Sir Swain was in his Agony. And then, whether John had brought the Patient so low, purposely to oblige him to make a Will in his Favour, or whether to have the Credit of recovering him when he was past all Hopes, he set him upon his Legs, by Means of his Gold Cordial.

C H A P. IX.

(1) How John Bull being puff'd up with his late Success in Physic, resolved, at the Instance of Sir Swain Northy, to try his Skill upon his Brother Doctor Peter Bear. How Peter refused to submit to the Course of Physic; and how he and Sir Swain Northy agreed to be revenged.

AS soon as Sir Swain Northy was able to go abroad, he waited on his Doctor John Bull, not so much out of Gratitude, as 'tis suppos'd, as to persuade him to take Peter Bear in Hand. John, whether out of Vanity or Ill-will to Peter, of whom he began to grow jealous, on account of the Increase of his Practice, promis'd Sir Swain, that he would soon bring down Peter's fat Paunch. To this End John made Peter a Visit, told him of his sudden unnatural Repletion, that Evacuations were absolutely necessary, and that he must immediately lose a Quantity of Blood. But tho' John display'd all the

(1) In this, and the foregoing Chapter, Critics may cavil in Point of Chronology, concerning the Time of Sir Swain Northy's Death and giving the Golden Cordial, &c. but the Author trusts, the candid Reader will see the Propriety of treating the Subject in this Manner.

Oratory to persuade Peter to go under a Course the next Spring, and offer'd to serve him *Gratis*, there was no moving him; and for Fear John and Sir Swain, whom he suspected to have egg'd on John, shou'd lay violent Hands upon him, and join in forcing a Horn between his Teeth, he retir'd abruptly from John, and kept out of his Way all the Time he stay'd in that Neighbourhood.

Peter, who was a Man of good Understanding tho' plain and uncourtly, perceiv'd that John Bull had evil Designs in his Head; and therefore resolv'd to turn the Tables upon him, by accommodating all Disputes between himself and Sir Swain Northy, whom he knew to be John's Friend from the Teeth outward only. This Accommodation was immediately follow'd by an Association and Plan for taking down John's Pride. But the Scheme miscarry'd, by the untimely Death of Sir Swain, who was vehemently suspected by John to have concerted dangerous Measures with the discontented Tenants of Bullock-Hath. But be that as it may, the Gossips in the Neighbourhood made very free with some Characters as to the Time, Manner, and other Circumstances concerning Sir Swain Northy's Death.

C H A P.

avoded it awyed sit diw noitologioe Cymone
Hman an dawd sit diw noitologioe
I doidly tol abys I mawd abys tawt betweyn
C H A P. X.
How 'Squire South having been pamper'd
by John Bull and Nic' Frog,
manion, and pres' them to exchange
Kid's Field for Beef. Now Nic' refused
to meddle any more in his Affairs, and
recommenda him to John, as a general
Meddler; and how John was drawn
in to serve the 'Squire more out of Fear
than Love.

DURING the continuall of the late grand
Law-Suit, Ejectments had been brought for
several Parcels of Lands in the Possession of Phi-
lip Baboon, which were put into the Hands of
'Squire South, and the Possession was confirm'd
to him by the general Composition. But the
'Squire having too quick a Digestion, wanted
to exchange a Piece of barren Land, fit only
for feeding Goats, which had been given him,
for an equal Quantity of fittering Soil, and
thinking that John Bull and Nic' Frog wou'd re-
fuse him nothing, over their Cups at least, he invited
them to a Bottle of Turkey, and after he had
ply'd them pretty warmly for a Couple of
Hours, open'd the Subject-Matter of their Meet-
ing in the following Manner:

Sure, Friends and Fellow-Labourers, since
that Varlet, Sir Roger, has forced us into an in-

famous Composition with the *Baboons*, it behove us to set our Heads together, and rectify his Mistakes. Among other Favours, I was complimented with some *Sardinian Lands*, for which I thank you: But to tell you Truth, I am surfeited of *Beasts Flesh*, which are the only Cattle the Land will rear; and besides, I have a mighty Longing for *Silian Beef*, since I tasted of a Sirloin made me a Present of lately by Gaffer *Swarthy*, on whom you, Mr. *Bull*, thought fit to bestow all the *Silian Manor*, tho' you might have conferr'd your Favours more suitably.

Bull. On yourself, you mean.

South. I do so — But I impute the Misapplication of the Favour to that arch Rogue Sir *Roger*. You are intirely out of the Question, and so is my Friend here, honest *Nic Frog*. I told you our Business was at present to rectify Mistakes; therefore let us begin with obliging *Swarthy* to an Exchange, every Way more suitable and convenient. — How, Gentlemen, silent on a Proposal made you by one so sincerely your Friend! — still unheeded! — *Sacrament!*

Bull. Why, Neighbour *Frog*, don't you make the 'Squire an Answer?

Frog. And, Neighbour *Bull*, why don't you make him one yourself?

South. Nay, nay, Gentlemen, if you think my Proposal unreasonable, say so — and, by the Honour of my August Ancestors, I will kick you both to the D——l. (*Afside.*)

Frog. I see the 'Squire's Blood rises. (*Afside.*) As

JOHN BULL. 25

for my Part, my noble 'Squire, a I have had no Hand in putting Gaffer Swart by n Possession, I hope you will hold me excus'd, if I beg Leave to have no Concern in the Exchange. All I know is, that *Swarthy* was very hearty and useful in prosecuting the grand Law-Suit, and deserv'd to be consider'd.

South. Say you so, Mr. *Groot*? I shall make you repeat this e're long, or I am mistaken.

(*Afide.*)

Bull. I thought so when I put him in Possession; and I see no Reason for altering my Opinion: Besides, to tell you truly, (you know I am but a plain Man) we think you have already full enough, and *Swarthy* full too little.

South. I see these Mechanics are not to be sooth'd; I'll try what Roughness will do. (*Afide.*) Mr. *Frog*, I give you Time till To-morrow to consider of the Matter; but, as for you, Mr. *Bull*, I can perceive your Jealousy of me increases, as you add to your Copy-hold within my Lordship — But bark, in your Ear — if in eight Days Time you don't put me in Possession of the *Sikan* Manor, I will take my Revenge; remember *Munquag* is within my Reach. (*Whispers.*)

Bull. Ay, there the Slabberer has the sure: (*Afide.*) — Why so choleric, my worthy 'Squire? Mayn't Friends reason upon Points, without falling out? My saying that *Swarthy* had little, and you full enough, did not imply but an Exchange of an equal Quantity of Acres might be made, without adding to the one, or taking from

from the other. Mr. *Frog* and I will set our Heads together, and reason or bully *Swarby* into a Consent.

Frog. I wish the 'Squire all manner of Success; but for my Part, I am so taken up with pack-
ing up my Cheese and Butter for Market, that I have not Time; but you, Mr. *Bull*, that have a Head for these Sort of Affairs, and Power to enforce your Schemes, I think you may undertake this Matter alone. — I shan't envy you either the Honour or Expence. (*Whispers to John Bull.*)

C H A P. XI.

How much about this Time, a Fray hap-
pen'd in John Bull's Family, which ob-
liged him to discharge many of his Servants,
and particularly Bob Bronze, whom he
had rais'd to be his Cashier.

In John Bull's late Regulation of his Domesticks, he was not able to make such Provision for Bob Bronze, as he was inclin'd, in Recompence of past Services tendered to his Family, because so many Men of greater Account stood in his Way; but, on the first considerable Vacancy, which was of the Cashier's Place, Bob was preferr'd.

This Post of all others suited Bob's Humour best, as it gave him Weight in the Family Deliberations, and an Opportunity to mind his Fortu-

wife, which he had impair'd in supporting John Bull's Interest in the Manor. But Bob being somewhat untractable, and over-eager in lining his Pockets, his Fellow-Servants, but particularly Sternbolt, resolv'd to have him discharged.

Sternbolt was much in John Bull's Confidence; and was his chief Adviser, tho' he resolv'd all Posts of public Trust. All John's Servants, except Bob, paid this Confident great Deference, and transacted no Affair of Moment without his Approbation. But Bob, naturally haughty and self-sufficient, threw off all Dependence, and dictated without any Controul in his own Province. Sternbolt seeing himself thus slighted by one of Bob's Obscurity, pry'd so narrowly into his Actions, that he soon discover'd the ill Use he made of the Trust repos'd in him. Having therefore ample Proof of Bob's Peculation, he address'd himself one Morning to John Bull in the following Manner: "Sir, The Fame of your Justice reach'd the Extremities of your Manor before you came into Possession, and gain'd you the Love of your Tenants even before they were acquainted with your Virtues. But, Sir, the Permission of Injustice falls little short of the Commission of it."

John Bull. You say true, my trusty Friend; but wherein have I permitted Injustice?

Stern. "In the Person of your Councillor. All is Corruption and Venality in his Office. He has his private and publick Brokers, who sell to the best Bidders all the Places in his Gift. Then he is so insufferably arrogant, that none

" of

"of your Head-Servants will stay in your Service, if he continues."

Tho' John was loth to part with Bob, because of his great Art and Address in the Management of his domestic Affairs, and his Interest with Mrs. Bull and the Tenants; yet for all his Reluctance, he was forced to give Way, for Fear of drawing upon himself the Odium of encouraging Corruption.

C H A P. XII.

How Bob Bronze had the Art to draw off along with him Squat, and some other of John Bull's Servants, when he was dismiss'd: how he thwarted all John's Measures; was like to be call'd to a severe Account for his late Peculations; and how at last John was obliged to take him back again into his Family.

WHILE Bob Bronze was Cashier to John Bull, he so ingratiated himself to several of his Master's Servants, by conferring some Favours, by his Openness and Frankness, and the Oiliness of his Tongue, that some of them resign'd their Places when he was dismiss'd. Of these none was of Consideration enough to be mention'd in this History, except Squat, whom we shall have frequent Occasion to name hereafter.

As

As Bob had distinguish'd himself all along by Opposition, and found his Account with him, he conceiv'd that he must now go on his old Road, in order to oblige John Bull to admit him a second Time into his Service. To this End he spoke contumeliously of John's Conduct in the open Manor-Court, and even diffus'd many printed Papers among the Tenants to the Land-lord's Prejudice. But what vex'd Jobs more than any thing was Bob's openly joining such of the discontented Tenants as John thought to be Enemies to his Family, and his practising on Mrs. Bull to become cool upon her Husband, and even refractory.

This so ungrateful and indecent Conduct of Bob's so nettled John Bull, that he swore a great Oath he wou'd have his Head, or at least his ill-gotten Estate. But while Sternholz, who hated Bob mortally, was contriving how to please his Master, and satisfy his own Revenge, he found himself of a sudden forced not only to drop all Thoughts of prosecuting Bob Bronze, but to apply to his Friendship.

It seems John Bull had a Mind to cram his Pocket with Guineas and Crown-Pieces, by Means of Gamblers, and other such like Artists, in Imitation of his Friend Orlando, Steward of Clay-pole, who had just about that Time play'd many such Pranks. The Scheme went on successfully at first; but there being no solid Foundation to support the vast Fabric rais'd by the Art, or rather the Inchantment of John's Gamblers, it fell at once to the Ground, and crush'd Thou-

Thousands in its Fall. So great Calamity cou'd not but cause Murmurs and Heart-burning among John's Tenants, which Bob taking Care to ferment, and by laying all the Blame at Sternbok's Door, he so indam'd all the Copy-holders, and even Mr. Bull, that the Confident, tho' innocent as a Babe unborn, found himself under the fatal Necessity of suing for the Protection of the Man in the World he lov'd least.

But Sternbok had no other Means to quiet the People, and secure himself from their Rage, but by intreating John Bull to stide his Recklessness against Bob, and take him again into his Service: For Bob had acquir'd such Influence with the Tenants, who lov'd Opposition at their Hearts, that he cou'd inflame, or cool them at Will. John digested the Pill with much Reluctancy; but the Peace of the Manor, and the Safety of his Confident requir'd that he shou'd overlook all Bob's Failings and Presumption. Thus Bob Bronze, by screening the innocent Sternbok, got once again into his former Post of Cadillier, wherein we shall see him act a Part equal to his Ambition and Address.

BOOKER WITH GUNNAR AND CHAMONIX-BEESER
WICHES OF CHAMONIX-SAY HAD CAME TO THE VILLAGE
IN FRENCH OLYMPUS, SEVEN
LITTLE CHILDREN NEEDS FLY HAD CAME
COLD-DEAD WOOD-SPADES HAD CAME
THE PEGNOLE HAVE GO TOWN
BILLET ON SPADS PUT; FIRST IN VILLAGE
CELESTINE BLAIST ONE'S BY THE
DAISY OR PEGNOLE THE DAY FROST
CHAMPION OF THE VILLAGE, SAY HAD CAME
TOWN.

JOHN BULL. 31

now late the 1st of Novr 1711 I recd much

pleasure wch the Vicere of the County had

given me at his County Court

CHAP. XIII.

How John Bull's stomach'd being forced to
readmit Bob Bronze into his Service; and
how he became tired to such a Degree of
the turbulent Disposition of his new Ten-
ants, that he resolv'd to retire to Mum-
quag, referring to himself an Annuity for
Life out of the Manor of Bullock-
Hatch'd before said service would be endin-

g'd him

JOHN BULL, tho' naturally mild and good-
nature'd, was sensible of the Respect due to
him as a Master and a Landlord; and there-
fore took it gravely to Heart, that he was
forced to gratify, instead of punishing Bob Bronze,
in his Insolence and Ingratitude deserv'd. This
Compulsion threw John into a Thoughtfulness
at first, which was soon heighten'd into a settled
Melancholy, by reflecting on the natural Unfe-
eliness and Turbidity of his new Tenants.

The Change in John's Countenance and Be-
haviour was too visible to be overlook'd by Bronze-
bar, who could not bear to see his Landlord so
tortur'd in Mind. Sir, (said he one Even-
ing, as they sat together smoking a long
Pipe) having observ'd you of late more pen-
sive than usual, and far more reserv'd even
towards myself, I wou'd beg to know the
Cause; for, tho' I am not conscious of hav-
ing

" ing given the least Occasion, I fear much
" from the Art and Malice of that Rascal *Bronze*, who aims at engrossing your Confi-
" dence, as well as your Power."

John Bull. I disown not that I am more pen-
sive than usual, and that I have been of late
reserv'd to you; but, my faithful *Sternholz*, you
have no Share in my Inquietude. I have no
Objection to your Conduct, nor no Doubt of
your Friendship: And to let you see I have not,
I will take your Advice concerning a Resolution
that has labour'd in my Breast ever since that
insolent Fellow *Bronze* has obtruded himself into
my Service.

You know with how great Reluctance I took
Possession of this Manor; and I must tell you,
that nothing but the good Opinion I had of my
self cou'd have induced me to get the better of
my Prejudice. I knew my Heart so well, that
I was sure it wou'd not be my Fault, if my new
Tenants were not happy, and did not make me
so: but how miserably have I been deceiv'd! I
find by Experience, that no Landlord can please
them. In short, my dear Friend, I find to my
Cost there is no Quiet or Happiness for me to be
expected among you. This Plainness wou'd
not, perhaps, please another Ear; but yours I am
sure not to displease. You are no Stranger to
the Foibles of most of your Fellow-Tenants;
you are my Friend, and as such, I desire your
Advice and Assistance in an Affair of infinite
Delicacy in itself, and of great Importance to
me. — After *Sternholz* had given him the strong-
est

est Assurance of his Friendship and Fidelity, he proceeded thus: — “ You know how I stand affected to my Family ; you know my Mind as to ***** ; and I know your Pro- vocations. In short, I consider but myself ; and as my Happiness depends wholly on my Quiet, I wou'd fain spend the rest of my Days on my Estate of Mumquag, and reserve a reasonable Annuity for Life on this — You know my Mind ; and I rely on your Integrity, Skill, and Secrecy for managing a Treaty, and taking other proper Steps for conducting me to Peace of Mind and Happiness.”

C H A P. XIV.

How Sternholte took his Measures for answering the Confidence reposed in him by John Bull ; and how he died while the Negotiation was going on, not without some slight Suspicion of unfair Play on the Part of his Enemies. How, after Sternholte's Death, John Bull sent to seal up all his Papers, that the aforesaid Negotiation shou'd not come to Light ; and how the whole Secret came out by Means of Bob Bronze.

WHETHER Sternholte had any Squeamishness concerning paternal Failings, or any secret Inclinations towards the Person he was or-

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der'd to treat with about *John Bull's Retirement* from the Manor of *Bullocks-Hatch*, and a considerable Annuity for Life; or whether he was glad of an Opportunity to be revenged of ~~****~~
~~he had vow'd his Ruin, for having advised John~~
~~Bull, at his first coming to the Possession, to keep~~
~~the Staff in his own Hand; or whether he had any~~
~~other, and what Views; but sure it is, that he~~
~~labour'd very earnestly to bring Matters to bear~~
~~pursuant to *John Bull's Intentions*, and brought~~
~~them almost to the last Perfection, when he was~~
~~suddenly struck with the Blow of Death.~~

Sternholz, tho' disinterested, was not popular; and it was shrewdly guess'd, that he had Enemies who might be jealous of his Power, and apprehensive of his Resentment. But whether they had any Suspicion of the secret Negociation he was employ'd in, is not so clear, as that he died very suddenly and unexpectedly. As there is no Possibility of stopping the Mouths of gossiping Wives and tattling Men, 'tis no Wonder that *Sternholz's Death* was the Subject of Censure.

But tho' the Alarm of his Death was great and general, it alarm'd the Breast of *John Bull* more than any other. He wou'd have gone personally to *Sternholz's House* to secure his Papers; but fearing to give too great Umbrage, he sent the faithfulest of his Clerks with an Injunction to bring him all *Sternholz's Papers*, without inspecting any. The Clerk alarmed at so uncommon an Injunction, importred the Cause of his Surprize to *Bob. Bronze*; who, not doubting of some extraordinary Secret between *John Bull* and

and Sternbold, hoped, by coming at it, to render himself so necessary to his Master, that if he should not be able to gain upon his Love, he might upon his Fear. And it happen'd as he had projected; for by an Indulgence of John's Clerk, who had Orders not to inspect Sternbold's Papers, Bob came by the important Secret, which it was so much John Bull's Interest to keep conceal'd. From that Hour to that of John Bull's Death, Bob drew into his own Circle all the Power of the Land-lord, and Emoluments of the Manor.

C H A P. XV.

How John Bull pray'd Orlando Baboon to contrive giving young 'Squire South Satisfaction concerning the Exchange of Goats Flesh for Beef. How Philip Baboon intended to seize to his own Use both the Farms in Question; and how John Bull, at 'Squire South's Instance, sent out his arm'd Cavallops, set upon Philip's Boats unsuspected, and took and blew up every Stick of them near the Silian Farm.

SQUIRE South's Threats concerning the Manor of Mumquag put John Bull into such a Tweague ever since their last Interview, that he had no Rest till his Neighbour Orlando Baboon set his Heart at Ease by assuring him, that he

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wou'd join him to dispossess Gaffer Swarthy, in Favour of 'Squire South. John was highly pleased to let the World see that he had so powerful a Friend as *Orlando*; and the artful Baboonian was no less pleas'd that he cou'd make a Breach in the grand Composition, and wean *Swarthy* from his Attachment to the late Plaintiffs in the general Law-Suit. As for 'Squire South, he saw that the separate Interest of *Mumquag* wou'd occasion an everlasting Jealousy between him and *John Bull*; so that he doubted not to dissolve, by Degrees, the Harmony that had long subsisted between the Plaintiffs in the late grand Suit, by which old *Lewis Baboon* had been so greatly dishearten'd and impoverish'd.

Orlando, as cunning a Wight as ever took Measure of an Oaf's Foot, had no sooner *John Bull's* Consent to transact any, and every Thing in his Name, but he drew up an Instrument, by which he, *John*, and *South*, dispos'd as they thought fit, of all the Possessions in the Neighbourhood, without any Regard to such Settlement as had been made by the late grand Composition: And he had the Address to prevail on *Nic Frog* to become a Party to the said arbitrary Award; but it was with a secret Salvo, that *John Bull* shou'd bear any Expence he shou'd be put to in Consequence of his Acceffion. *Nic* had all his Eye-Teeth grown, and was sure to bite *John Bull* in all their Bargains.

No sooner was this Award publish'd, but *Philip Baboon's* Wife, as very a Termagant as ever poor Man was curs'd withal, teaz'd her Husband

so about making Provision for his second Brood by her, that to content her, and procure himself domestic Peace, he order'd his Chaplain, a mettled, meddling, cunning Fellow, to fit out all his Boats; and take Possession in his Name of two small Islands, which had formerly belong'd to his Predecessors, and even had been in his own Possession not many Years before. Well became the scheming Priest, he secur'd one of the Islands presently, and was near securing the other, when 'Squire South sent so uncivil a Message to John Bull concerning his Favourite Manor of Mum-quag, that John was in a great Pucker; and, to allwage the 'Squire's Wrath, he fitted out all his Challops immediately, and fell unawares on Philip's Boats, just after his Servants had been landed on the Island, and sunk, burnt, and took every Stick of them.

C H A P.

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C H A P. XVI.

How all the Neighbours cry'd out Shame at
John Bull for destroying Philip Baboon's
Boats without any previous Notice or Quar-
rel. And how, to be revenged, Philip at-
tempted to give John Bull some Disturbance
at home, and actually fix'd Scaling-Ladders
to the Walls of a Barn, which a Prede-
cessor of John's had forced from Philip.
How John Bull being fear'd out of his
Wits at Philip's Preparations against him,
wrote him an obliging Letter by Orlando
Baboon, wherein he assured him of the
Restoration of the Barn that had been
wrested from him, if he wou'd pocket
the Affront and Injury he had done him,
at the Instigation of 'Squire South.

AL L John Bull's Neighbours being scandaliz'd
at the Treachery of his late Usage to Phi-
lip Baboon, he held down his Head wherever he
met any of them; and at last threw the Blame
on the Pilot of his Challops, who, he said, ex-
ceeded his Orders. But all the World sneer'd
and chuckled, when they saw that same Pilot
rewarded, instead of being punish'd. Some of
John's own Tenants resented the perfidious Blow,
as it seem'd to fix a Blemish on all the Inhabit-
ants

ants of the Manor of *Bullocks-Hatch*, and wou'd be glad to lay Hands on the Adviser of the Perfidy, and punish him as he deserv'd: But *John*, who was tender of his Servants, never wou'd name the Adviser, tho' it was shrewdly guess'd that he was an Inhabitant of the Manor of *Mum-quag*.

But be that as it may, *Philip Baboon* resented the unjust Indignity so highly, that he avow'd publickly, he wou'd sell and pawn every Rag he had on to be revenged of *John Bull*. Accordingly he fitted out all the Boats he cou'd lay Hands on; and with so profound Secrecy, that had not the Winds disavour'd, they wou'd have landed their Hands on the Manor of *Bullocks-Hatch* before *John* cou'd know of the Design. Tho' this be a Fact notorious to all the Neighbourhood, it will hardly meet Credit hereafter: For who that considers *Philip's* late Loss of Boats, the great Distance between his Manor and that of *Bullocks-Hatch*, and the extraordinary Number of *John Bull's* Challops, can suppose that so bold an Effort cou'd be made by *Philip* under so great Disadvantages?

But however Posterity may judge of this Fact, *John Bull* was so sensible of the Reality of it, and so affected with the Danger he had miraculously escap'd, that he trembled every Inch of him; and while the Fit was hot upon him, he sent to *Orlando Baboon*, his Friend, to mediate a Reconciliation between him and his Cousin *Philip*, who had just before fix'd Scaling-Ladders to a Barn that he had been stripp'd of by *John Bull's* Predecessor.

Orlando, who was *John Bull's Friend* from the Teeth outward only, and wish'd that *Philip* had his Barn again, that *John's* Tenants might no more fat their Fowls there, very willingly undertook to reconcile the Landlords at Enmity: but told *John Bull* under the Rose, that nothing cou'd be done with *Philip Baboon*, unless he had the Barn at *South-Mims* restored to him. *John*, who was frighten'd out of his Wits at *Philip's* late Invasion, consented, without the least Hesitation, to promise by Letter to procure *Philip* all the Content he himself cou'd wish for. Upon which all Signs of Rancour ceas'd for the present between *John Bull* and *Philip Baboon*.

The Neighbours talk'd variously of this Promise of *John's*. Some said, it was of a Piece with the late treacherous Destruction of *Philip's* Boats, never intended to be kept; others said, and perhaps with more Truth, that as *John* was very indifferent concerning every Thing that did not immediately affect his Manor of *Munquag*, he really design'd to deliver up the aforesaid Barn to *Philip*; but that his Tenants of *Bullocks Hatch*, and even his Wife threatening to lead him a weary Life, if he attempted the Performance of his Promise, he was forced to drop all Thoughts of it.

C H A P T E R XVII.

How Philip Baboon was so exasperated at the Non-performance of John Bull's Promise, that he threw himself into Squire South's Arms, tho' an Enemy, to be revenged of John : and how kindly Philip was receiv'd by Squire South, that he might help protecting a China Shop, which the Squire had lately set up in New Frog and John Bull's Neighbourhood.

ORLANDO Baboon had no sooner reconcil'd John Bull and Philip Baboon, but he was suddenly snatch'd out of this Life, to the great Joy of Philip, and Mortification of John, who look'd upon him as the best Friend he had in the World. The Truth is, Orlando had not Honesty enough to be a Friend to any Man ; but he had the Cunning to perswade John, that he was sincerely his, tho' all the While he was urging him to his Ruin. And to this Day the Neighbours are of Opinion, that if he had liv'd a few Years longer, he wou'd have quite undone all his over-credulous Acquaintance.

Had Orlando liv'd, 'tis thought he wou'd have sooth'd, or bully'd John, to perform his Promise of restoring the aforesumption'd Barn : But his Death embolden'd the Obligor to give Content to his Tenants, by breaking thro' his Engage-

gagement: *Philip* was so enraged at this second Perfidy, as he call'd it, and some other Indignities, that he vow'd Revenge; and the better to come at it, sought the Friendship of 'Squire *South*.

'John' had Intelligence of *Philip's* Design, but cou'd not be prevail'd to believe that any Consideration cou'd induce 'Squire *South*', whom he had so lately and essentially oblig'd, to hearken to any Proposals to his Disadvantage. But he was no less mistaken than surpriz'd to find the *Squire* and *Philip* together one frosty Morning drinking *Gin* at a Brandy-Shop, with *Nic Frog's* Favourite Daughter between them.

So shocking a Sight cou'd not but put up *John's* choleric Blood, who in his Passion laid upon *Philip* and the 'Squire with a Quarter-Staff he usually carry'd in his Hand: But both fell upon him so furiously, that *John* had enough to do to fight his Way to the Shop-Door. As soon as he was out of the Reach of his Enemies, *John* whoop'd and halloo'd to *Nic Frog*, that his Daughter wou'd be debauch'd, unless he came instantly to her Relief: but *Nic*, tho' he lov'd his Daughter as the Apple of his Eye, cou'd not be periwaded to quarrel openly with so good a Customer as *Philip Baboon*: But for all that, he was not the less solicitous about his Daughter, whom he found the Means to preserve at the Expence of others.

C H A P. XVIII.

*How Nic Frog waited on John Bull to beg
he wou'd engage young Lewis Baboon to
interfere in the Preservation of his Daugh-
ter from the Embraces of such Ninkum-
poops, as 'Squire South and Philip Ba-
boon; and the Consequence of this In-
terview.*

SOME few Days after *John Bull* had been so ill used by *'Squire South* and *Philip Baboon*, and so slighted by *Nic Frog*, he was sitting pensively in his Counting-House, fretting his Guts to Fiddle-Strings, when lo ! *Nic* came to make him a Visit. After the usual Salutation, *Nic* open'd the Purport of his Visit in the following Manner :

Nic. I am come to return you Thanks for your intended Friendship to my Daughter ; and to ask you Pardon for not seconding your good Intentions : But, Mr. *Bull*, I am sorry to say it, I have not recover'd my Strength since my last Bout at Back-Sword with old *Lewis Baboon*. Besides, *Philip* is one of my best Customers,

John. But shou'd he deflower your Daughter, mayn't he then set up a Shop of his own ?

Nic. No, no ; the *Ninkumpoop* is too proud and lazy : I fear the *'Squire* much more ; he has got such odd Whims in his Head since he has lain in

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in a Chintz-Bed, and tasted of Mungo's and Indian Birds-Nests, that I fear lest he shou'd inveigle my Child to abandon her own Father for Good. Don't you see how he has set up a China-Shop already in our Neighbourhood?

John. Why Nic, you wou'd not have me venture alone to break all the 'Squire's Tea-Equipage?

Nic. The Truth is, Mr. Bull, you are lusty, and strong enough to encounter both 'Squire South and Lord Strut; but I know your Influence with young Lewis Baboon, and his new Steward, and advise you to request that the young Man might bear you Company.

John. Nay, for that Matter, as you say, I am strong enough to deal with them alone; but for the greater Safety and Expedition, I don't care if I call upon young Lewis in my Way—But, Mr. Frog, won't little Lewy expect I shou'd bear his Expence? 'Tis a cunning young Hound's-foot as any within fifty Miles of him.

Nic. Lord, that a Man of your Figure and Fortune shou'd mind so trifling a Sum as the Travelling-Charges of one young Lad! Why, Mr. Bull, you forget your own Dignity—For Shame! let it not be said that any of the Blood of the Bull's wou'd permit any Man to club a Reckoning in his Company.

John Bull was so tickled with Nic's Flattery, that he granted all, and more than he ask'd. He sent immediately to young Lewis, to desire he wou'd give him a Meeting at Munquag, whither he was just setting out. Lewis met him there

cordingly, and enter'd into Articles with him, Nic Frog, and one Fred. Wildfire, to oppose the joint Efforts of the Wopers of Nic's Favourite Daughter.

C H A P. XIX.

How John Bull and young Lewis Baboon were forced to beg and pray Nic Frog to sign the said Articles, tho' he was more concern'd than any other of the Contractors. How Fred. Wildfire repented, and retracted what he had done; and how John Bull was saddled with all the Expence that attended the aforesaid Association.

TH O' the Insult offer'd by Lord Strut and Squire South affected Nic Frog more than any Man alive, yet so tenacious was he, after the Parties met at Mumquag, that he refus'd signing, till young Lewis Baboon promis'd that John Bull shou'd indemnify him. Then indeed, after a Thousand Quirks and Evasions, Nic sign'd, but not till he had a Desceazance under John Bull's Hand and Seal.

As this Association was not kept a Secret, Squire South and Philip Baboon, or Lord Strut, no sooner had Notice of it, but they vow'd to be revenged of John Bull, whom they look'd upon

as

as the Promoter of the League against them. The 'Squire swore by the Fiddle of his deceased Father, (an Instrument much revered in the Family) that he wou'd work John's Buff, and make him repent every Vein of his Heart, that he had disengaged the Lord Paramount of Mumquag. And his first Step was to wheedle into his own Interest Fred. Wildfire; whom John Bull reckon'd upon as his best and fastest Friend.

John was Thunderstruck at the News of Fred's Detection; and his Alarm for Mumquag was so great, that he prevail'd on his Wife to agree to a Mortgage upon her Jointure Lands for him to raise Money, which he dispers'd among all the poor hungry Fellows in the Neighbourhood of his little Favourite Manor. By this Means he hoped to secure Mumquag from the impending Danger: But not contented with this Precaution, he arm'd the best Part of his Challops, and order'd them to lie off a distant Mine belonging to Lord Strut, for Fear he shou'd fetch any Oar to Market, that might enable him to support his Associate 'Squire South.

But this was not all neither; for John being no less afraid of an Invasion of Bullocks-Hatch by Lord Strut, who had but very few Boats, and by 'Squire South, who had not one Boat in the World, than of one to Mumquag by South and Wildfire, he arm'd all his Tenants at home, and cover'd the Rivers about the Manor of Bullocks-Hatch with arm'd Challops of all Sizes. Nor was he even then at Ease: for if the Wind blew

from

JOHN BULL. 47

from either the East or West, his Heart painted like any thing.

The young Varlet *Lewis Baboon* made great Game of *John Bull* on this Occasion, and play'd intolerably upon his Fears. Sometimes the young Elf wou'd put *John* in Mind of a Cloud gathering in the East, and the next Moment he wou'd whisk the good Man about to view one rising on the opposite Side of the Horizon. And tho' *Nic Prog* was less offensive, or rather less indiscreet whilst in Sight, *John's* Back was never turn'd but *Nic* lugg'd out his Tongue at him a full half *Flemish Ell* beyond his Butter-Teeth.

In all this costly Bustle *John* had the Honour of having no Partner in defraying the Expence. *Lewis* pleaded, he had no Challope, and very little Money; and *Nic* swore himself black in the Face, that he had neither Victuals, nor Money to buy any, but offer'd to send *John* half a Dozen of his rotten Challops, provided he wou'd send Provisions on board, and pay the Mens Wages.

CHAP. XX.

Of the Use *Bob Bronze* made of the Secret of *Sternholt's Negotiation*, and how he came about *John Bull* to increase his own Power.

No sooner had *Bob Bronze* a Sight of *Sternholt's* Papers, but he laid Hold on *John Bull's* Orders to him for negotiating the Term
of

of his Abd—ation from Bullocks-Hatch. Of this important Paper he took a hasty Copy, which he intended should serve him for a double Purpose. In the first Place, as was mention'd, he hop'd, by Means of it, to intimidate John, if he found him cool and reserved; and next, he did not question but to make his Court to young Jack, who might have it in his Power hereafter to return the Favour. It was thought that young Jack was no Admirer of Bob, nor Bob of him; but it often happens, that Men find their Interest in paying Attention where perhaps they think none is due.

Be that as it will, before Bob would make a Step towards the rising Sun, he resolved to avail himself of that in the Zenith. One Monday-Morning, then, as he came, as usual, to bring John Bull his Weekly Pocket-Money, in laying down the Bag on John's Tobacco-Board, he look'd wishfully at him, and said in a Tone capable of moving a Rock, *My dear Landlord, I wish I cou'd as readily lay my Heart on that Board, as I do this Bag of Money, to convince you that Sternholt never loved you half as much as I do.*

John, who expected no such Compliment from so plain-looking a Man, was really affected; which Bob perceiving, he took Courage, and push'd home his Purpose: "Sir, " (said he) I am no Stranger to your Uneasiness at the Turbulency of your Tenants, nor to your Intention of retiring to your Favourite Manor of Mumquag, if Sternholt had liv'd to have executed your Orders." At

these

these last Words John bit his Lips, and fretted exceedingly ; but Bob still went on, unheeding as it were any Change in John's Countenance.

" Sir, I humbly beg Leave to assure you, that
" I am as capable, and I believe more willing to serve you in all Respects than Sternbott.
" You can't forget who his Sire was ; but Sir,
" Ancestral Faith flows in every Vein of mine.
" If your Humour of retiring from us still subsists, I will continue the Negotiation ; and all
" the Recompence I expect is, that you will allow me to retire along with you. For Sir,
" no Stripling's Gut-strings yearn so for a Sweet-heart, as my Bowels do for you." — Now Bob put on one of his mournful Faces, and took John's Right-Hand, full of Gold as it was, and kiss'd and slabber'd it, as though it had been the Lips of the Lass he had just laid his Leg over.

The Kissing-Scene being at an End, Bob renewed his Addresses to John, whose good-natur'd Heart he had almost conquer'd ; which being observ'd by Bob, who has a Hawk's Eye of his own, he went on thus : — " But, Sir, if I might be so bold to offer you Advice, it wou'd be to drop all Thoughts of retiring hence. I am sensible of your Dislike of the turbulent, moody Humour of your Tenants, of your Love of Ease and Tranquillity ; and above all, of your Indifference towards young J——k, for certain private Reasons ; these are Motives, it is true ; but wou'd you enlarge, embellish, and enrich your Favourite-Manor, you must remain here among us, who are able to promote

“ your Designs. And, let me add, your Tenants
“ here shall promote any Views you may have
“ relating to *Marryng*, if you do me the Ho-
“ nour of confiding in me alone, and intrusting
“ me singly with the Exercise of your Power
“ within this Manor. I know the Tenants to
“ be headstrong as Mules, unsteady as Weather-
“ cocks, and murmuring as *Jews*; but they
“ have their blind Side, and no Man knows the
“ Way to it so well as I. The Truth is, they
“ love Money, and will have it at any Rate;
“ therefore, if you leave Matters to my Ma-
“ nagement, I'll forfeit you my Neck, if I
“ don't make the proudest of them jump over
“ a Stick, and fawn upon you like any French
“ Spaniel. In short, Sir, let it be known through-
“ out the Manor, that I have your Ear and Con-
“ fidence; and if ever you are put to a Pinch,
“ or have cause to be ruffled, call me and use me
“ as the veriest Scoundrel that ever darken'd
“ these Doors: And Sir, allow me to say, that
“ many Villains have set their Feet within this
“ Threshold; among which, tho' I can't say di-
“ rectly that *Sternholz* was one, yet am I sure he
“ was the Son of one who was no better than he
“ shou'd be.”

Upon the Whole, *Bab* had so wound up *John's*
Heart, that from that Hour he delegated to him
as much Power and Authority as he requir'd.

JOHN BULL.

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C H A P. XXL

How Bob Bronze laid about him in Bullockes Hatch as soon as John Bull vexted him with ample Authority. A Sketch of Bob's and Squat's Characters. Here Bob spoke consummately of young Jack to Squat the Evening as Bob came to Squat's House frighten'd out of his Wit,

TH O' Bob Bronze's Blood was not as thoroughly infected as old Nell's, yet he bore impatiently enough the being subservient to any Man. But, as Matters stood with him, he thought it prudent to affect leading, rather than driving his Master; and John Bull was well enough contented with the Shadow of Power; as for the Substance, he delegated it to Bob ever since the late Conversation. From Bob's natural Temperament, it may be easily guess'd, that he cou'd bear no Equal, nor wou'd have any. He chopp'd and changed in all the Offices of the Manor and Manor-House, and turn'd off every Mother's Son that offer'd to reason, or stand upon Terms with him. *Furiose*, who had been one of John's Clerks for some Years, and in his Confidence, stood but on a very tottering Foundation with Bob, tho' nearly ally'd to him. And *Squat*, who had resign'd in Compliment to him,

on his late turning out, found himself sinking in Bob's good Graces, as this latter rose in the Graces of their common Landlord.

Never were any two Men unapter for Friendship than these two; which induc'd many to wonder how a seeming good Understanding had subsisted between them for some Years. But what might be a Mystery heretofore, is now become as obvious as the Sun. Before Bob arriv'd at the Summit of Fortune's Hill, he made use of Squat as a Round to mount to it; and during this Interval, he hugg'd him, took him into his Bosom, flatter'd his Vanity; and in short, laid a Restraint on his own Temper to indulge Squat's: But when he found himself above his Level, he dropp'd the Mask, and began to appear in his native Colours.

Squat, who was naturally vain, impetuous and haughty, thought himself Bob's Equal at least, if not his Superior in Parts, Blood and Fortune; and saw no Reason why he shou'd not rise as fast, and as high. But finding himself deceiv'd in Bob, he began, first to cool towards him, and afterwards to declare openly against him. But before Matters came to Extremity, Bob, who liv'd next Door to Squat, came one Evening to set his Neighbour under all the Perturbation of Mind that can possibly be imagin'd. — "Oh!" said he, "my dear Bosom-Friend, how unhappy is my Fate! Here is a Letter in my Hand giving Intelligence, that my House is to be set on Fire this very Night, and I am to be murder'd into the Bargain." — Squat limper'd to

see

see the Tweague his Neighbour was in ; and sitting down by him, spoke to him in the following Manner : " Why, Neighbour Bob, I never was more mistaken in a Man than I am in you ; (secretly alluding to Bob's Falsehood and Ambition) for I thought you a Man of Resolution, but I find you a Chick. Can't you see that the Detection of the Designs of a Man's Enemies is his Safety ? My House wou'd be in Danger, shou'd yours be in Flames ; therefore shall my Servants watch all Night as long with yours : And as for Murder, shou'd you think your own House insecure, you are welcome to stay in mine. — But, Neighbour, what have you done to deserve such Punishment, or to have your Conscience fly so in your Face ?

Bob. Nothing in the World, as I hope to be fav'd. I have walk'd as upright as a new Chancellor, who has the keeping of the King's Conscience.

Squat. Ha ! ha ! Of late, you mean. You know that formerly Hay and Oats was foul feeding.

Bob. Pshaw ! Pox o' that silly Affair ; 'twas before your Time —

Squat. Then some ill-natur'd Things have been spoke of a certain late Contract.

Bob. Pr'ythee, no more of these Fooleries —

Squat. Nay, don't look grave ; I was but in Jest — But, as to the Matter in Question ; what Man of Spirit have you lately push'd beyond his Patience ? Such he must be, that cou'd form the

tremendous Design of murdering you, and burning your House in one and the same Night.

Bob. None, as I expect a Ribbon. You know me, dear Squat, to be as cool and passive as a Gentleman Usher.

Squat. I have heard it whisper'd, that young Jack wou'd have been better pleas'd, if you had talk'd more obligingly of him to our Landlord, and paid him greater Deference.

Bob. Pshaw! F—l! who minds whether he be pleas'd, or discontented? Why, shall other Folk mind him more than his Dad? — Here the Conversation was interrupted by the coming in of Squat's Wife, who came to ask her Husband's Advice concerning some Money she was laying out upon a Mortgage.

CHAP. XXII.

How Bob Bronze managed John Bull's Wife; and how, by her Means, he managed John and all the Tenants. And how he encouraged John to spare no Expence upon Mumquag, and supported him by his Interest with Mrs. Bull.

JOHN BULL's Wife has always the keeping of the Purse; and besides, she had no small Ascendancy over John, and among the Tenants. Sternbolt play'd his Part pretty tolerably with her till that unlucky Affair of the Gamblers already notify'd; but after that, whilst he liv'd, she wou'd

wou'd every now and then stop short to ask some impertinent Questions. These were a Sort of Humours Bob did not like, and he took a new Method to keep her always in Temper, and constantly complaisant and submissive.

Tho' Mrs. Bull had the keeping of the Purse, she wou'd be glad of private Pin-Money, to defray her idle Expences, and pay her Mantua-maker and Millener; for she was not allow'd to finger any of the Money in the Purse, which was all at her Husband's Disposal, when once gather'd; or rather at his Steward's. Bob, being well acquainted with Mrs. Bull's private Profusions, and Want of Pin-Money, waited on her one Morning at her Toilet, and told her, without mincing the Matter, that if she wou'd resign herself up wholly to his Conduct, she shou'd never want Money, Jewels, new Cloaths, nor Opera, Ridotto and Masquerade-Tickets.

The good Woman, who had been more politely treated by Sternkolt, was somewhat nettled at Bob's plain Way of speaking; but she had such an Itch to Gaming, dressing fine, and indeed to all Manner of Luxury, that she stifled her Resentment, and promis'd to be as supple as a new B——p, and complying as an old Usurer's Harlot. But begg'd, as a Favour, that whenever he had any Request to make to her, it might be with Decency, in order to stop all the old Wives Mouths, who wou'd otherwise make free with her Fame. Bob promis'd; and to do him Justice, he perform'd his Word with good Grace. For this he gress'd Mrs. Bull's Fist, and secur'd

noisepaper

her over Night, whenever he wanted a Favour ; yet wou'd he accost her, for Form's Sake, next Day in open Company with great Ceremony, and seeming Respect.

Sometimes he wou'd affect paying her more than ordinary Compliment, when the Favour to be granted was of Consequence. And on these Occasions he wou'd order his Satellites, of whom he had a Number always wandering about the Orb of his portly Person, to stand up, and make her flattering Speeches, which he himself always took Care to second in Person. Of these the most volatile and sprightly was *Limberham*, as pliant a Twig as ever grew under the Shade of a Forest-Oak. And he fared as well for his Ductility ; always roosting in a snug Place, and basking in Sun-shine. Another of his Preamblers was *Stiff*, who always spoke with such an Air of Plausibility and Importance, that he acquir'd very much the good Graces of Mrs. *Bull*, and was much more in Favour with the Tenants than any of *Bob*'s Jack-calls. And yet it would puzzle a Conjurer to distinguish between the Virtues of *Stiff* and *Limberham*. If implicit Obedience to *Bob*'s Nod was Merit, they had it alike ; and if going all his Lengths was virtuous, then are they still on an Equality, and both are Angels of Light.

After *Bob* had secur'd the Resignation of Mrs. *Bull*, he told *John*, that now he might improve, extend, and embellish *Mumquag* as much as he wou'd ; and that he wou'd take upon himself to defray all the Expence : " For, said he one Evening over their Cups to *John*, who seem'd to question

question his Sufficiency, "I have made Love to
" your Wife, and succeeded so far, as that I may
" say, she carries the Purse but for my Use."
He went on exulting, and proclaiming his Inter-
est in Mrs. Bull so long, that the Husband
thought it decent to take him down a Peg; tho',
for any thing John cared, all the Militia of the
Manor might be well with her, provided he
cou'd finger the Pence.

Bob's Influence with Mrs. Bull was of infinite Service to him, not only with Regard to the Husband, but Tenants, who are but too apt to judge favourably of a Steward in her good Graces; on a Supposition, that she wou'd countenance no Collusion or Corruption. The Sequel will shew the Error or Rectitude of the Supposition.

CHAP. XXIII.

How Bob Bronze was put to it to defray
the vast Expence John Bull had incur'd
by falling out with Squire South and
Lord Strut. How the Tenants murmur'd
at John and Bob's Conduct, and how
Bob feed an Adept dress'd in Petticoats
and Lawn, to stop the Tenants Mouths
with Sugar-Plums, for Fear they shou'd
inseminate Mrs. Bull against him.

AS soon as John Bull found himself abandon'd
by Fred. Wildfire, he was at his Wits-End;
and not doubting but Squire South had debauch'd
so

so natural an Ally from him, with a Design to seize upon *Munquag*, he mov'd Heaven and Earth to raise the 'Squire Enemies, and wean from him, and weaken his Friends. Some he brib'd extravagantly high, others he frighten'd with his vast Preparations. In short, all the Rivers were cover'd with his Challops, and all the Fields with his armed Men both Foot and Horse.

These mighty Preparations were exorbitantly expensive; but that was the least of *John's* Concern. If he cou'd secure *Munquag*, and bring down 'Squire *South's* Pride, he minded not what the Tenants of *Bullock-Hatch* shou'd suffer, or say. But his new Steward, who had encouraged *John*, and obliged himself to find the Means of defraying all the Expence, was not quite so calm and indifferent as his Master. He had rack'd the Tenants woefully, and even seiz'd to his own Use some Rents that were appropriated for the Payment of old Debts: He had forcibly seiz'd on all the Boatmen and Fishermen in the Manor to man *John's* Challops, insomuch that no Man cou'd cross a River to go to Market, nor no Fish cou'd be had on Fasting-Days.

So unsatisfactory, in short, was *Bob's* Conduct in all Lights, on this Occasion, that it gave almost general Offence, which he perceiving, and dreading that *Mrs. Bull* might take Fire, if the Flame was permitted to spread, he propos'd to his Master the extinguishing it by Sugar-Plums. *John Bull*, who knew not the Temper of his new Tenants so well as *Bob*, was not a little surpriz'd, and even offended at the Extravagance of

of his Proposal; " How ! (says John) pretend to lay, by Sugar-Plums, the high Fever of Men, who think themselves excessively harass'd, deceiv'd, and injur'd ? "

Bob. Sir, your Tenants are the veriest Cheats in Christendom. They have the Appearance of being turbulent, and headstrong, but they are, in the main, the tamest, best-natur'd Creatures in the World. Are they ready this Hour to cut your Throat, the next they will kiss your A--e, saving your Presence, if you give them good Words. The only Difficulty is in finding apt Expressions, and applying them seasonably. I don't remember to have seen the Tenants in such a Taking as they now are in, since the Prosecution of the Country Vicar, *quorum pars magna fui*. But, for all that, if I have your Promise of the next fat Living in your Gift, I have a Friend, who shall harangue to them so oilily, so flowingly, and with such seeming Candour and Affection, that their Ferment will be laid in an Instant. But there is no persuading him to exert himself, unless he has your Promise to promote his Interest as Opportunity offers.

John. The Interest you mean must be spiritual, because the Agent must be a spiritual Person, since you mention a Living for him.—— I will promise his spiritual Interest with all my Heart ; but enriching him is not the Road to it.

Bob. In the primitive Ages of Christianity the spiritual Interest might be the principal Object of the Attention of spiritual Persons ; but the Moderns

ders are more enlighten'd. You have already reach'd out your benevolent Hand to raise the Person, whose Pen we now stand in need of, for having employ'd it to weaken the spiritual Power; but, as we want it now to support the temporal, it will well become your Generosity and Wisdom to secure it in your Interest. Tho' your Wife be all Complacency at present, as she is naturally fickle, there is no Certainty that she will not catch the murmuring Contagion, shou'd it continue: And if once the Tenants shou'd get Madam *Bull* of their Side, your Servants will surely go to Pot, and even you yourself will stand but on slippery Ground.

John promis'd all his Steward ask'd in Favour of *Double*, whom he immediately set to work. And no sooner had *Bob* engaged *Double* to put his Invention to the utmost Stretch in his Service, but he triumph'd in all Companies he came into, saying, " You shall see such an Apology for my Conduct, as shall give the Lie to Malice, clear my Innocence, and put *Squat* my open Enemy to Flight, and to the Blush, if he has any of that Grace left, which I had lent him during our Intimacy." — People generally smirr'd when *Bob* talk'd of his Grace; but, for all their leering, he went on; " Gentlemen may wonder at the vast Expence we have been lately put to in Consequence of the late Association at *Mumquag*; but when they come to read *Double*, they will wonder rather that we cou'd avert the mighty impending Dangers from all Quarters at so small an Expence.

" pence. And sure no Man can think that a
" Person dress'd up, by divine Appointment, in
" Petticoats and Lawn, would write an Un-
" truth, or offer to impose on the Flock?"

The Truth is, *Double's* Performance was a Master-Piece. He stated Things in such a tremendous Light, that the Tenants held up their Hands to Heaven for their Deliverance from 'Squire South and Lord Strut; and particularly from the late *Peter Bear's* Widow and Executrix, whom they had set on, according to *Double*, to worry *John Bull* and all his Family. And tho' *Squat*, who about this Time profess'd open Enmity to *Bob Bronze*, endeavour'd to undecieve the Tenants, by pointing out the Fallacy of *Double's* Reasoning; they had swallow'd too many of his Sugar-Plums to relish *Squat's* Bitters, tho' wholsomer, and better suited to their Constitutions. — Time indeed has prov'd the Rectitude of *Squat's* Arguments; but what of that? *Double's* Persuasive answer'd the present Purpose, which was all *Bob* requir'd, knowing full well that *Bullocks-Hatchians* are no shrewd Observers of *Time*, or Slaves to *Experience*.

C H A P. XXIV.

How Bob Bronze triumph'd over Squat after he had appear'd the Tenant; and how he intended to lay a Trap for him and others, if his Power had not been shorten'd by the sudden Death of John Bull, by a Surfeit of Mushrooms.

A F T E R Bob had laid the Ferment of the Tenant, by Means of Double's Sugar-Plums, he was secure of Mrs. Bull; and by being secure of her, he so secured his Master, that he cou'd persuade him to any Thing. But fearing that Squat, now become formidable by the great Number of rich Tenants that join'd him, some in Opposition to Bob only, and others in Opposition to John and his Family, shou'd ever circumvent him in his Master's Favour; Bob laid a Scheme for destroying Squat, and some of the Principals of his Associates. He was become so useful to John Bull, that he had a Claim to his Ear and Confidence. And it must be own'd, that Bob had both without a Drachm of John's Affection: For tho' he had unlimited Power, he cou'd not be deem'd a Favourite.

Bob was not insensible of his Situation, and endeavour'd, by awaking his Master's Jealousy of Squat's Principles, to rivet himself in Favour, and destroy one he dreaded as an Enemy
and

and Rival. *John* had a favourable Opinion of *Squat's* Parts and Principles; and was inclin'd to believe that he oppos'd out of Pique to *Bob*, more than Ill-will to himself, or his Measures. Therefore *Bob* alarm'd his Jealousy one Day, by shewing him *Squat* in the Arms of *Will Nervous*, of whose Love *John* was suspicious, and not without some Cause. From that Moment *Bob* became a Favourite; and now having engros'd all Power and Favour, he thought nothing impossible to him.

It was now that *Bob* had determin'd to display his Talents and Power. The first by laying a Plan for ruining *Squat*, and the chief of his Associates; and the other by executing his Scheme. He had his Emissaries planted about *Squat* to give him an Account of his Words and Actions; and order'd all the Letters to him and from him to be inspected: But failing of Materials by such Means, he projected a feign'd Correspondence between *Squat* and *John Bull's* Enemies, which must have been attended with terrible Consequences, in regard to *Squat* and others, had not Fate stripp'd *Bob* of the Protection of his Master when least expected.

John Bull's Summer's Journies to *Mumquag* were constant and regular. He had a Nature for the Place, and lik'd it better than *Bullock-Hatch*, tho' greatly inferior in Climate, Soil, and Situation: But Nature will be predominant, in Spight of Prudence, and even Interest. It was this Year, about the Beginning of June, when *John* set out for *Mumquag*; and happen-

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THE HISTORY OF

ing to ride throp. *Nic. Frys* & *Mead*, he chapt. 8
Culper or Mushrooms, which he order'd to be
eaten, he now had them dress'd for Mr. Swett.
But it was the ill Habit of his Body that
he took up after the Meal, and pre-gather'd unto
his Death on the third Day; in 1772 mid sum.

There are some Disputes between the Annoy-
lifs of the Bell-Family concerning the Occasion
of John's Death, and the Day it happen'd upon.
Some say the Surfeit was from Mushrooms, some
from Cucumbers, and some again from Melons.
Then as for the Day; the Anniversary of his has
been kept ever since on the *Eleventh* of Octo-
ber, but it shoud be the *14th*. But
there may be Reasons for the Transition, which
will be sufficient for me to relate, or for my
Reader to know. A no more than I can
well only remark, in concluding this Third
part of my Work, that all the world thought
the Cause of John Bell's Death, was either the
Mushrooms, or the Cucumbers, would be a good Day to
keep, as we still follow in our Almanacs and
Calendars, like the *14th* of October, and by
the Way, when you have done with your Cucumbers
and Melons, you may be pleas'd to let me
know if you will, or one, who has written about this
Kirke, and desolv'd to destroy,

the following note, for me, as bad as it is better than any
I can tell you in History, or in Fiction, 200
years ago, in Newgate Wall, or in the
Tower of London, or in the Tower of

J **N** **S**

